

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF HEREFORD

FOR THE YEAR 1921

BY

PETER LOWE, M.A. (Hons.), B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

County Medical Officer of Health.

HEREFORD :

ADAMS AND SONS, PRINTERS AND BOOKBINDERS, EAST STREET.

1922.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ADMINISTRATION

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Hereford M.B.		Bromyard U.D.		Kington U.D.		Lechlery U.D.		Leominster M.B.		Ross U.D.		Bredwardine R.D.		Bromyard U.D.	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
(Civilians only)	ALL CAUSES.	142	151	7	7	15	14	23	23	33	42	31	33	8	15	66	31
1.	Enteric Fever																
2.	Small Pox																
3.	Measles																
4.	Scarlet Fever																
5.	Whooping Cough					1									1		1
6.	Diphtheria	1	5			1											2
7.	Influenza	1	1					1		1	2					1	1
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica																
9.	Meningococcal Meningitis																
10.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	13	1				1		4	4	2	2	1	1	5	3
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	2							2	2		1			2	1
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease	7	23			3	2	2	4	1	4	2	4	1	3	3	8
13.	Rheumatic Fever	1				1											
14.	Diabetes	1	1			1				1	1	1			1	1	1
15.	Cerebral Hemorrhage	11	14		2	1	1	2		3	6	3	5	1	1	1	4
16.	Heart Disease	26	29	2		2	2	1	1	4	10	4	2		2	11	11
17.	Arterio-Sclerosis	7	3	2	3	1		2		1		3	1	1		5	7
18.	Bronchitis	8	3			1		1	1	2	2	6	1			3	2
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	6	7	1				6	4			1	1		1	2	2
20.	Other Respiratory Diseases	1				1	1			1	1						3
21.	Uleer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	1														
22.	Diarrhoea, &c., (under 2 years)	4	2			1				1		1	2			1	
23.	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2						1									
24.	Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1									1			1	1	
25.	Acute and chronic Nephritis	5	1		1			1				2	3		2		
26.	Puerperal Sepsis												1				
27.	Other Accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and parturition,		1					1									
28.	Congenital Debility, and malform- ation, premature birth	12	10			1	1	1	2			2	1		2	1	3
29.	Suicide	2	1							1		1					
30.	Other deaths from violence	4	2			1		3		2	1		1			4	2
31.	Other Defined Diseases	30	31	1	1	3	5	7	8	3	9	1	8	2	2	17	9
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	1										1		2		4	3
Special Causes (included above):—																	
	Poliomyelitis		1														
	Polioencephalitis		1														
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR		Total	22	20	1	2	2	4	2	8	1	3	5	1	2	6	4
	Illegitimate		3	2		1		3		1						1	
TOTAL BIRTHS			306	247	13	20	17	16	33	38	66	62	57	53	18	25	85
	Legitimate		279	234	13	18	15	15	30	37	59	57	51	53	16	20	79
	Illegitimate		27	13		2	2	1	3	1	7	5	6		2	5	6
POPULATION			23250		1531		1694		3110		5550		4643		1940		7020

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COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

CAPTAIN L. H. GREEN, M.B.E., Chairman.

The Chairman of C.C.	Mr. E. Edwards,
The Vice-Chairman of C.C.	Mr. T. Edwards,
Miss M. M. Armitage,	Mr. James Farr,
Mr. H. J. Bailey	Mr. James Godsell,
Mr. M. Bailey,	Mr. R. W. Hall,
Mr. F. Ballard,	Mr. J. K. Hyslop,
Mr. R. S. Beavan,	Mr. E. W. Langford,
Mr. W. C. Bolt,	Mr. H. Langford,
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Mrs. D. E. Dymond,	Mr. G. Whittaker, O.B.E.
	Commander A. J. Windebank, R.N.

MIDWIVES AND NURSING SUB-COMMITTEE.

CAPTAIN L. H. GREEN, M.B.E., Chairman.

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The Vice-Chairman of C.C.,	Mrs. Kevill-Davies,
Miss M. M. Armitage,	Mrs. D. E. Dymond,
Sir John R. G. Cotterell, Bt.	Mr. T. Hopkins,
	Mr. R. Pashley.

SANATORIUM BENEFITS SUB-COMMITTEE.

CAPTAIN L. H. GREEN, M.B.E., Chairman.

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The Vice-Chairman of C.C.	Mr. H. Langford,
Mr. M. Bailey,	Mrs. Mines,
Mrs. D. E. Dymond,	Mr. R. Pashley,
Mr. S. H. Deakin,	Mr. D. J. Walton,
Mr. J. B. Dowding.	

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing
Committee of the Hereford County Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the ANNUAL REPORT for 1921 on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Administrative County.

It is a matter of regret that a serious loss to the Public Service of the County occurred during the year under review, by the death of Dr. Gold. Both from the point of view of the efficiency of his public work and of his popularity in a private capacity his loss will be severely felt in the County.

By instructions of the Ministry of Health, the Annual Reports of the Urban and Rural Medical Officers of Health are not now to be included in that of the Medical Officer of Health of the Administrative County. They have, therefore, been omitted from this Report.

The financial depression which is a consequence of the Great War still continues and its effects are reflected in the Public Health Administration of this and all counties. Much as we would like to apply the lessons in this branch which we have learnt during the war, the necessities of the moment not only prevent the initiation of new schemes, but call for rigid economy in the work of existing ones. It is, however, false economy to starve the Public Health Services since these, though not for the moment producing an actual cash balance, still in time have a very far reaching effect in ensuring better health, and in reducing the number of persons who have to be supported out of the rates.

It is now generally acknowledged that all the activities of the Health Services, by ensuring the rearing of healthy children, dealing with and preventing the causes of physical crippling among them and safeguarding the health of adults, tend to increase their wage-earning capacity, thus producing more wealth for the country, and enabling them to support themselves and their families without assistance from the rates. Money spent on prevention will thus render much of that now spent on work-houses, etc., unnecessary, and it is evident that a healthy prosperous population is contented while an unhealthy one, struggling for

existence or living on doles is discontented. One must also take into consideration the vast amount of suffering which the first method does away with, even if the actual financial saving is not great.

As stated by Dr. Gold in the last Report the ideal is undoubtedly "a strict but sane economy with efficiency" and not a wholesale scrapping of sanitary effort the result of which would be very detrimental to the general health of the population.

I have to report that the good results obtained last year as a consequence of the work of the Council have been maintained as the following statistics show:—

Population of the County and Calculated Rates.

The population of the County at the Census of 1921 was found to be 113,118, but after correction was made for visitors only temporarily resident, the Registrar-General has corrected the figures for the County to 111,829, of whom 39,778 belong to the Urban Districts and 72,051 to the Rural Districts.

	1921.	1920.
Birth Rate	21.8	24.2
Death Rate	12.6	13.0
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Births)	64	61
Death Rate—Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.93	0.87
Death Rate—all Forms of Tuberculosis	1.22	1.09
Death Rate from Cancer	1.38	1.22.

Birth Rate

The Birth Rate for 1921 is 21.8 per 1,000 of the population, and is 2.4 per 1,000 less than in 1920. It is only 0.6 per 1,000 lower than the figure for England and Wales as a whole.

Death Rate.

The Death Rate is the lowest recorded for the County, being 12.6 per 1,000 and is 0.5 per 1,000 higher than the corresponding figure for England and Wales. The fact that the Death Rate has been so low for two years in succession is very gratifying, and must mean a substantial saving in lives.

Infantile Mortality.

The Infantile Mortality for 1921 is 63 per 1,000 births, and compares favourably with the figure of 83 for England and Wales as a whole.

The actual rate for legitimate children was only 61 while that for the illegitimate children was 85 per 1,000 births. The rates for the past two years are much lower than they have ever been, and the improvement is, no doubt, largely due to the excellent work done by the Health Visitors and Voluntary Workers who co-operate in carrying on the Voluntary Welfare and Ante-Natal Centres in connection with the County Council's scheme of Child Welfare. This scheme is carried on at very small cost.

The supply of Midwives for the County has improved, and the standard of candidates offering themselves for training is higher.

Tuberculosis.

The Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis is 0.93 per 1,000, which is higher by .06 per 1,000 than last year's rate. Other forms of Tubercular disease give a death rate 0.29 per 1,000, compared with 0.21 last year. A scheme for a Sanatorium at Nieuport has now been approved, and the Sanatorium will probably be ready for use about the beginning of 1923. The scheme provides for the treatment of 34 adults and 28 children.

Selected cases of surgical Tuberculosis should have the advantage of the great advances in the surgical treatment of this disease at such Institutions as the Shropshire Orthopædic Hospital, so that they may become self-supporting and cease to be a burden on the rates.

Zymotic Diseases.

There has been a considerable decrease in the incidence of Infectious disease in the County as compared with 1920. There were 596 notifications in 1921 as against 710 in the latter year. As would naturally be supposed the largest contributor is Hereford City. The Zymotic death rates are also generally lower, and compare very favourably with those of England and Wales. The death rate from Infantile Diarrhoea still keeps low, 8.6 per 1,000, and is almost half that for England and Wales (15.5 per 1,000). It is only fair to attribute a considerable proportion of this successful result to the Infant Welfare Centres and to the activity of the Health Visitors, District Nurses and Voluntary Workers.

Venereal Diseases.

The country as a whole is realising the vital importance of dealing with these diseases from the point of view of prevention and cure. The incalculable harm and inefficiency which

they cause to the community justify strenuous efforts in these directions. The County Clinic at Hereford General Hospital being almost in the centre of the county provides a means of cure for all patients in the area.

The spread of the disease is largely due to careless or mentally defective persons of either sex. The methods of prevention should therefore be (A) The spread of knowledge of these diseases; their consequences and how best to avoid them; and (B) by a restriction as far as the law allows of the activities of persons of low grade mentality, who usually are sources of infection. The National Council for Combating Venereal Disease should be supported in its efforts in the first direction, while the aid of the Police and the Rescue Societies might be invoked to secure the second result.

Housing.

At the end of the year practically all the houses provided for under the Housing Schemes were completed. Although the first intention was to provide more houses than these, under instructions from the Ministry of Health, all except those actually commenced were abandoned.

County Laboratory.

Over 1,400 specimens bacteriological and analytical, were examined during the year. The work carried out has been of great assistance in dealing with disease outbreaks, especially of diphtheria, 1,103 swabs from throats having been examined. There being no other Clinical Laboratory in the County, every effort is made to assist general practitioners and others as far as the limited equipment and staff will allow.

I have to thank the members of the Public Health Committee, and County Council for their courtesy and support. I also wish to express my appreciation of the help afforded by the District Medical Officers of Health and my indebtedness to the Staff for their loyal assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

PETER LOWE, M.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
132, ST. OWEN STREET,
HEREFORD,

20th NOVEMBER, 1922.

COUNTY STAFF.

CLINICAL TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER AND DEPUTY M.O.H.

PETER LOWE, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND
ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

H. C. JENNINGS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Resigned Nov., 1921.)

LIEUT-COLONEL C. F. WANHILL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
(Appointed Dec., 1921).

INSPECTOR OF MIDWIVES AND SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSES.

Miss A. BODEN, Church Road Cottages, Tupsley, Hereford.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss NESBITT.

CHIEF CLERK—L. A. NICHOLLS, A.R. San. I.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

DISTRICT.	MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
Bromyard	Dr. Jones.
Hereford City	Dr. Miller (resigned).
	Dr. A. M. Brown appointed August, 1921.
Kington	Dr. Harding.
Ledbury	Dr. Harrison.
Leominster	Dr. Robert Williams.
Ross	Dr. Campbell.

RURAL.

Bredwardine	Dr. Hincks.
Bromyard	Dr. Jones.
Dore	
Hereford	
Ledbury	
Leominster	
Weobley	Dr. Harding.
Kington	
Ross	
Whitchurch	
Wigmore	
	Dr. Campbell.
	Dr. W. H. Williams.
	Dr. Darroll.

AREA AND POPULATION.

AREA—538,924 acres.

POPULATION.—According to the Preliminary Report on the 1921 Census, the population of the Administrative County was 113,118, made up of 54,193 males and 58,925 females. After the adjustment for non-residents, the population for the County is found to be 111,829. The following table shows the population at the Census of 1911 and 1921.

	1911.	1921.
	<i>Census.</i>	<i>Census.</i>
Administrative County	114,269	111,829
Urban Districts	39,867	39,778
Rural Districts	74,402	72,051

For the County, a single estimate of population is now adopted as applicable for both births and deaths.

The following table gives the populations of all the districts at the Census of 1911, and as estimated by the Registrar-General for the year 1921, after correction for non-residents.

URBAN DISTRICTS.

	Population Census 1911	*Population Mid-year 1921	
Bromyard	1,703	1,531	
Hereford City (M.B.)	22,568	23,250	
Kington	1,819	1,694	
Ledbury	3,358	3,110	
Leominster (M.B.)	5,737	5,550	
Ross	4,682	4,643	
	39,867	39,778	

*Based on Census 1921, after correction.

RURAL DISTRICTS.

Bredwardine	1,995	1,940	
Bromyard	7,931	7,620	
Dore	6,491	6,170	
Hereford	13,597	13,560	
Kington	4,996	4,821	
Ledbury	9,059	8,850	
Leominster	7,915	7,550	
Ross	10,421	10,030	
Weobley	6,699	6,350	
Whitchurch	1,526	1,652	
Wigmore	3,772	3,508	
	74,402	72,051	

TOTAL ESTIMATED CIVIL POPULATION.

as given by Registrar-General.

	Population Census 1911	Population, Census 1921 (corrected)	
Urban Districts	39,867	39,778	
Rural Districts	74,402	72,051	
Total Population Ad- ministrative City	114,269	111,829	

THE CENSUS OF 1921.—The Census originally fixed for April 24th was not taken until June 19th, 1921. The preliminary Report was issued on August 18th, and the following notes refer to the Census figures of Herefordshire.

	CENSUS, 1911		CENSUS, 1921		Corrected Figures 1921
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
Urban Districts.....	18,595	21,272	18,390	21,551	39,778
Rural Districts	36,573	37,829	35,803	37,374	72,051
TOTALS.....	55,168	59,101	54,193	58,925	111,829
	114,269		113,118		

There has thus occurred a decrease of 2,440 during the intercensal period. In the Urban Districts there is a decrease of 89, while in the Rural Districts there is a decrease of 2351. Hereford City is the only Urban District shewing an increase, viz., 682. Only one Rural District has increased in population, viz., Whitchurch, by 126.

The following districts show decreases: Bromyard Urban, Kington Urban, Wigmore Rural, Weobley Rural, and Dore Rural.

BIRTH RATE.

The total number of births registered in the County during 1921, after due correction, was 2436 against 2679 in 1920. Of this number 928 occurred in the Urban Districts and 1598 in the Rural Districts.

	No. of Births 1921	Birth-rate 1921	Birth-rate 1920
<i>Urban Districts.</i>			
1. Bromyard	33	21.6	20.0
2. Hereford City	553	23.8	22.3
3. Kington	33	19.5	21.9
4. Ledbury	71	22.8	27.6
5. Leominster	128	23.1	21.6
6. Ross	110	23.7	31.1
<i>Rural Districts.</i>			
1. Bredwardine	43	22.2	20.7
2. Bromyard	165	21.7	26.8
3. Dore	144	23.3	22.8
4. Hereford	265	19.5	23.7
5. Kington	99	20.5	19.6
6. Ledbury	175	19.7	26.9
7. Leominster	152	20.1	23.4
8. Ross	203	20.2	25.0
9. Weobley	157	24.7	27.8
10. Whitchurch	38	23.1	19.4
11. Wigmore	67	19.1	27.2

BIRTH RATE OF URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS
AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

(Per 1,000 persons living.)

	1921	1920
Urban Districts	23.3	23.4
Rural Districts	20.9	24.7
Administrative County	21.8	24.2
England and Wales	22.4	25.4

The birth-rate for the Administrative County, after due correction, is 2.4 per 1,000 lower than last year.

Of the Urban Districts, the highest rate occurred in Hereford City (23.8), and the lowest in Kington (19.5). Of the Rural Districts the highest rate occurred in Weobley (24.7) and the lowest in Wigmore (19.1).

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

There were, during 1921, 164 (6.7%) illegitimate births in the County, compared with 204 in 1920 and 171 in 1919.

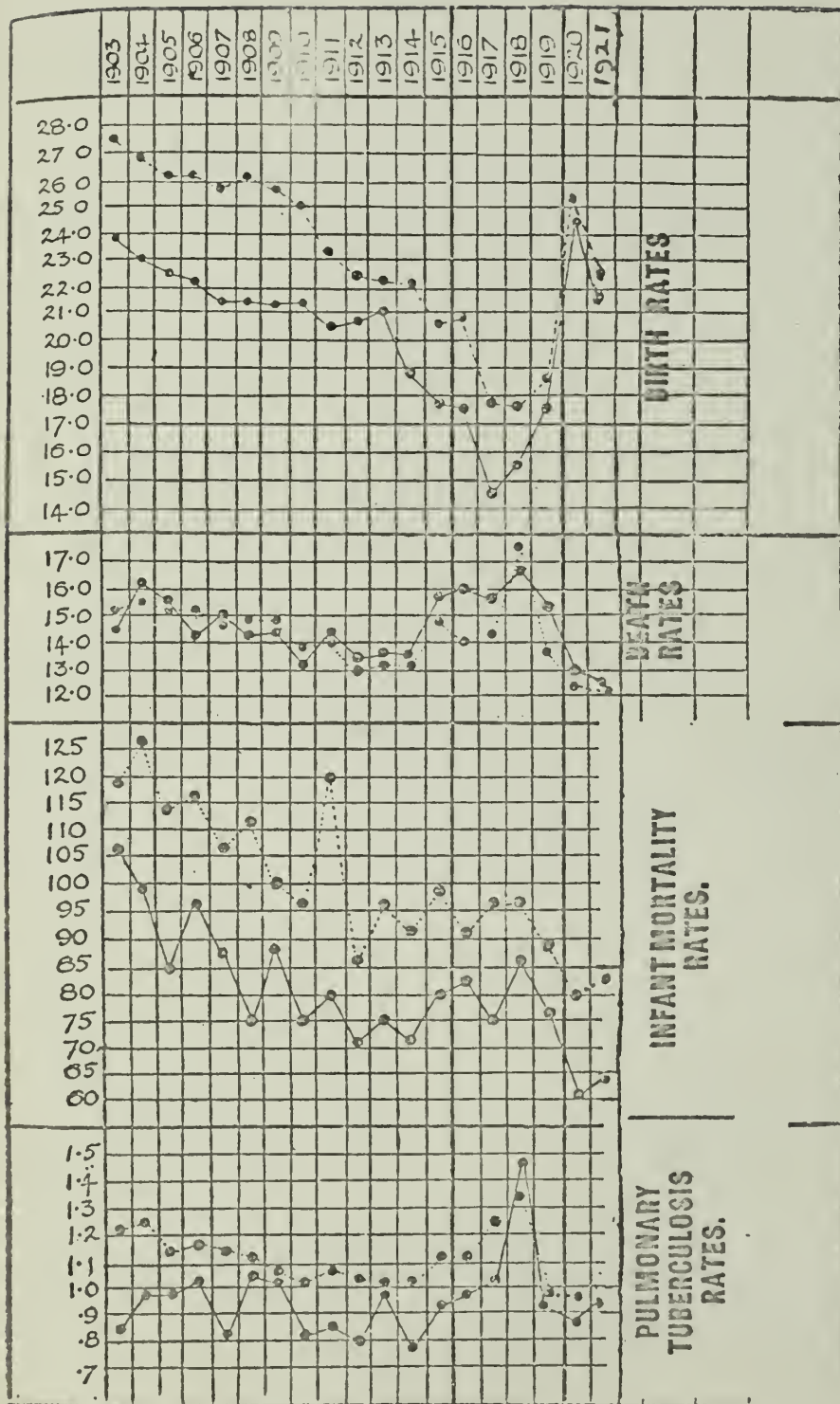
AVERAGE BIRTH RATES, 1906-1920 :

Average Birth Rate, 1906—1910	25.7 per 1,000.
Average Birth Rate, 1911—1915	20.3 per 1,000.
Average Birth Rate, 1916—1920,	17.9 per 1,000.
Birth Rate for 1921	21.8 per 1,000.

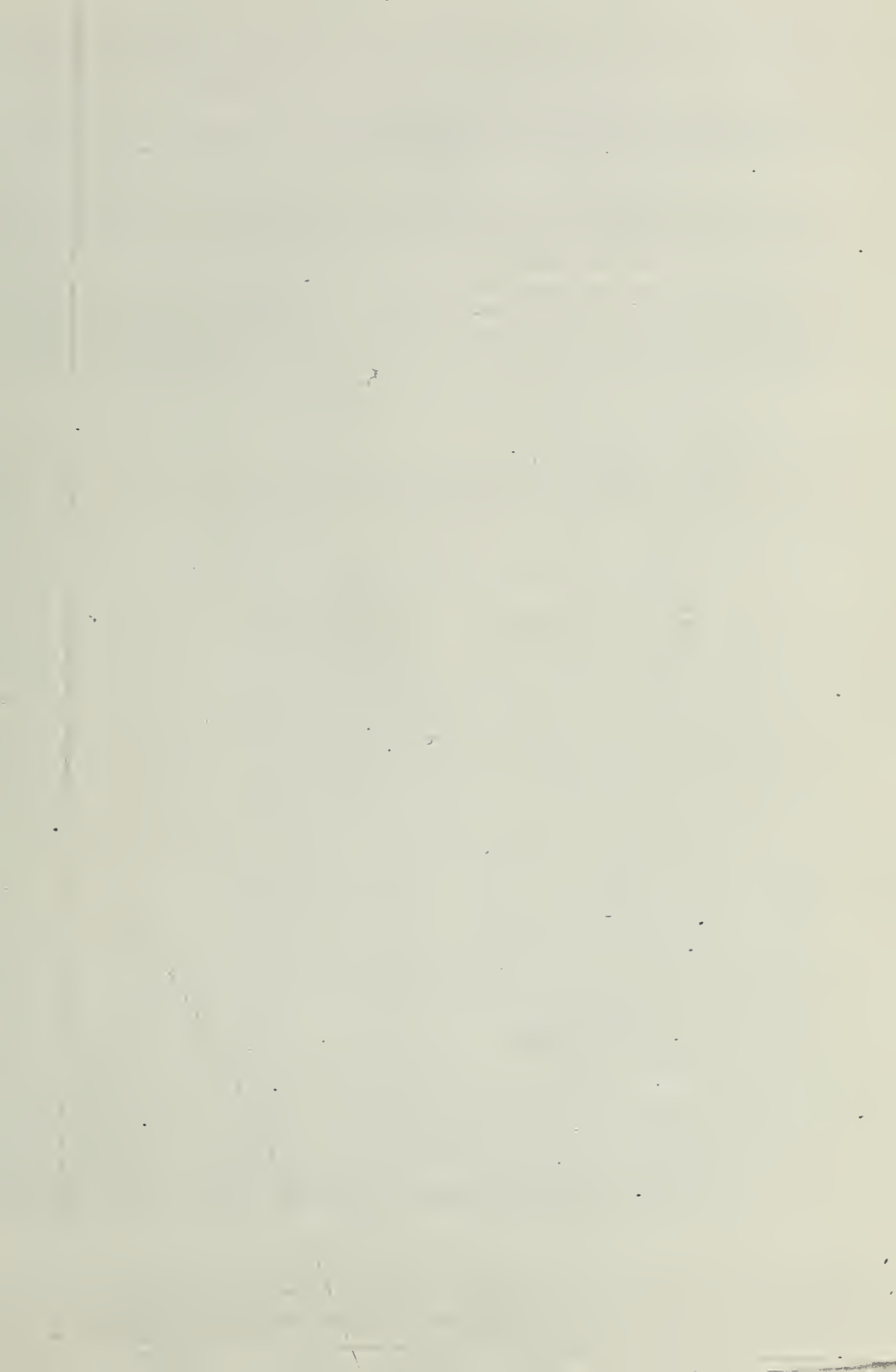
DEATH-RATE.

The number of deaths which occurred in the County during 1921, after due correction for residents and non-residents, was 1414. Of these 521 occurred in the Urban districts, and 893 in the Rural districts. The following table shows how these deaths are distributed, and the rates per 1,000 persons living:—

	No. of Deaths 1921	Death-rate 1921	Death-rate 1920
<i>Urban Districts.</i>			
1. Bromyard	14	9.1	10.6
2. Hereford City	293	12.6	12.4
3. Kington	29	17.1	9.5
4. Ledbury	46	14.7	10.0
5. Leominster	75	13.5	12.1
6. Ross	64	13.8	14.8
<i>Rural Districts.</i>			
1. Bredwardine	23	11.9	16.7
2. Bromyard	117	15.3	14.8
3. Dore	89	14.4	15.5
4. Hereford	144	10.4	13.0
5. Kington	62	13.8	11.5
6. Ledbury	104	11.7	12.5
7. Leominster	109	14.4	11.7
8. Ross	108	10.7	13.3
9. Weobley	80	12.6	14.8
10. Whitchurch	16	9.7	11.2
11. Wigmore	41	11.7	14.9



DOTTED LINE - ENGLAND AND WALES.
 ORDINARY LINE - HEREFORDSHIRE.



DEATH-RATES OF URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

(Per 1,000 persons living).

	1921	1920
Urban Districts	13.9	12.28
Rural Districts.....	12.4	13.47
Administrative County	12.6	13.03
England and Wales	12.1	12.4

The death rate of the County for 1921 is 0.4 per 1,000 lower than that for the year 1920.

Of the Urban Districts the highest death rate (17.1) occurred in Kington, and of the Rural Districts (15.3) in Bromyard.

AVERAGE DEATH RATES, 1906—1920:

Average Death Rate, 1906—1910	14.1 per 1,000.
Average Death Rate, 1911—1915	13.7 per 1,000.
Average Death Rate, 1916—1920	15.3 per 1,000
Death Rate for 1921	12.6 per 1,000.

The following Table gives the chief causes of death, with percentages for year 1921 :—

CAUSE OF DEATH.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage.
1. Organic Heart Disease	231	16.3
2. Malignant Disease (Cancer)	154	10.9
3. Tuberculosis (including Phthisis 104)	136	9.6
4. Congenital Debility	83	5.8
5. Bronchitis	72	5.1
6. Pneumonia	51	3.6
7. Violence (other than Suicide)	41	2.9
8. Nephritis and Bright's Disease	31	2.2
9. Other Respiratory Diseases	26	1.8
10. Diarrhoea	21	1.4
11. Diabetes	15	1.1
12. Diphtheria.....	13	0.9

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality rate refers to the number of children who die under one year, per 1,000 births. During the year there were 70 deaths in the Urban and 83 deaths in the Rural districts of children under one year—in all 153.

	No. of Deaths.	Rate 1921	Rate 1920
<i>Urban.</i>			
1. Bromyard	1	30	31
2. Hereford City	42	76	70
3. Kington	4	121	0
4. Ledbury	6	84	25
5. Leominster	9	70	57
6. Ross	8	73	50
<i>Rural.</i>			
1. Bredwardine.	3	69	119
2. Bromyard	10	60	55
3. Dore	8	55	87
4. Hereford	11	42	63
5. Kington	10	101	57
6. Ledbury	7	40	51
7. Leominster	5	33	56
8. Ross	10	49	53
9. Weobley	13	83	60
10. Whitchurch	2	53	77
11. Wigmore	4	60	94

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

(Per 1,000 Births).

	1921	1920
Urban Districts	75	58
Rural Districts.....	55	63
Administrative County	63	61
England and Wales	83.0	80

AVERAGE INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1906—1920 :—

Average Infant Mortality Rate, 1906—1910.....	84	per 1,000 births.
“ “ “ “ 1911—1915.....	76	“ “
“ “ “ “ 1916—1920.....	76	“ “
Infant Mortality Rate for 1921	63	“ “

ILLEGITIMATE DEATH RATE.

There were 139 deaths among *legitimate* children under one year, out of 2272 *legitimate* births—equal to a rate of 61 per 1000. There were 14 deaths among *illegitimate* children under one year, out of 164 *illegitimate* births—equal to a rate of 85 per 1,000.

The rate for the County as a whole is higher by 2 per 1,000 births than that for 1920. The rate for the Urban Districts is 17 per 1,000 higher, and that for the Rural Districts, 8 per 1,000 lower than the corresponding rates for 1920.

In England and Wales as a whole the rate in 1921 was 83 per 1,000 births.

In the 96 great towns it was 87 per 1,000 births. In the 148 smaller towns it was 84 per 1,000 births.

ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE, Etc.

By the above term is meant the deaths from the Principal Infectious Diseases, and the Table below gives the death rates per 1,000 persons, and compares them with those of England and Wales. There were 65 deaths, against 40 in 1920, and 16 in 1919.

Number of Deaths from the Principal Zymotic Diseases.

	<i>Urban Districts.</i>	<i>Rural Districts.</i>	<i>Admin. County.</i>
Small Pox	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	2	3
Diphtheria	7	6	13
Enteric Fever	0	0	0
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	11	10	21
Influenza	6	18	24
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	3	3
TOTALS	25	40	65

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 1921, 136 deaths were directly attributable to Tuberculosis. Of this number 104 of the deaths were caused by Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Phthisis) and 32 by other tubercular diseases.

Compared with 1920, therefore, there were 15 more deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis: 7 more from Tuberculosis of the Lungs (Phthisis) and 8 more from other forms of tubercular disease.

PHTHISIS.

Tuberculosis of Lungs (Phthisis).—The number of deaths from Phthisis in the Administrative County during 1921 was 104 (compared with 97 in 1920), of which 33 occurred in the Urban and 71 in the Rural districts. The rates per 1,000 persons for the separate districts, are:—

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>No of . Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 1921</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 1920</i>
<i>Urban Districts.</i>			
1. Bromyard	1	0.65	1.25
2. Hereford City	19	0.82	0.60
3. Kingston	0	0	1.78
4. Ledbury	1	0.32	0.34
5. Leominster	8	1.44	0.89
6. Ross	4	0.86	1.12
<i>Rural Districts.</i>			
1. Bredwardine	2	1.03	1.47
2. Bromyard	10	1.31	0.73
3. Dore	11	1.78	1.17
4. Hereford	10	0.74	1.33
5. Kingston	4	0.83	0.19
6. Ledbury	8	0.90	0.68
7. Leominster	6	0.79	0.92
8. Ross	4	0.40	1.18
9. Weobley	8	1.26	1.00
10. Whitechurch	2	1.21	0.00
11. Wigmore	6	1.71	0.86

Calculated on the total number of deaths returned, the rates for Urban and Rural areas and Administrative County are:—

	NO. OF DEATHS	RATE PER 1000 per- sons, 1921	RATE PER 1000 per- sons, 1920
Urban Districts	33	0.83	0.75
Rural Districts.....	71	0.99	0.95
Administrative County	104	0.93	0.87

The Phthisis death rate in the Administrative County is higher than in 1920 by .06 per 1,000 persons living.

OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1921 there were 32 deaths—11 in the Urban 21 in the Rural Districts—from other forms of tuberculosis (compared with 24 in 1920) giving the following rates:—

DISTRICT.	Total Tuberculosis Rate per 1,000 (including Phthisis)		“Other Forms of Tuberculosis Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	
	1921	1920	1921	1920
<i>Urban.</i>				
Bromyard	0.65	1.88	0.00	0.63
Hereford City	1.08	0.84	0.26	0.24
Kington	0.00	1.78	0.00	0.00
Ledbury	0.32	0.69	0.00	0.34
Leominster	2.16	1.07	0.72	0.17
Ross	1.08	1.79	0.22	0.67
<i>Rural.</i>				
Bredwardine	1.03	1.97	0.00	0.49
Bromyard	1.70	1.03	0.39	0.29
Dore	1.94	1.17	0.16	0.00
Hereford	0.89	1.50	0.15	0.16
Kington	1.45	0.56	0.62	0.37
Ledbury	1.13	0.80	0.23	0.11
Leominster	1.19	1.18	0.40	0.26
Ross	0.6	1.18	0.20	0.00
Weobley	1.26	1.16	0.00	0.16
Whitchurch	1.21	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wigmore	3.13	1.14	1.42	0.28

"TOTAL TUBERCULOSIS" AND "OTHER TUBERCULAR DISEASES" RATES, URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

	Total Tuberculosis Rate per 1,000 (including Phthisis)		"Other Forms of Tuberculosis" Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	
	1921	1920	1921	1920
Urban Districts	1.11	1.04	0.28	0.29
Rural Districts	1.28	1.12	0.29	0.17
Administrative County.....	1.22	1.09	0.29	0.21

**NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED
DURING JAN. 2nd, 1921, to DEC. 31st, 1921.**

	PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.		OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.	
	No. of Cases Notified.	*Rate per 1000 Population	No. of Cases Notified.	*Rate per 1000 Population
Admin. County	144	1.29	39	0.35
England & Wales	57,844	1.54	15,488	0.41

*Rates calculated upon estimated population.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS.

Notification.

A much smaller number of Pulmonary cases was notified than in 1920 ; while the number of non-pulmonary cases notified was slightly greater.

Many cases are notified too late to affect arrest or cure of the condition, as a considerable proportion of the cases die within a short time after notification. This is due to various reasons and the remedy is more widespread knowledge of the disease the overcoming of a certain amount of prejudice and the examination of the contacts of known cases. There will always remain the class of patient who consults a doctor only when he is absolutely unable to carry on and past all hope as regards treatment.

Early notification of cases is also most important.

Treatment.

(a) DISPENSARIES.

The number of cases which received attention at the County Dispensaries during 1921 is given in the annexed Table and it can be stated that the County Dispensaries contributed adequately towards the control of the disease.

During the year the Dispensaries dealt with 3,045 separate attendances of patients involving 720 patients; 267 (81 insured 123 uninsured and 63 discharged soldiers) new cases came under review.

The purpose of the Dispensary is to sift cases and these figures show that this is being done on a large scale. It is, of course obvious that a large proportion of the cases attending Dispensaries are cases under observation and not necessarily at the moment actual notified cases. A periodical stock-taking should be instituted and all definitely negative cases discharged.

It has been found that the dispensing of simple drugs for uninsured cases is highly desirable and arrangements have again been made with local chemists accordingly. The figures for a completed year January, 1921—December, 1921—shows, that the total cost was £229 13s. 8d. The number of prescriptions issued was 644, divided as follows:—Cod liver oil emulsion, 191; malt and oil, 57; ordinary prescriptions, 396. The number of patients prescribed for was 276.

(b) INSTITUTIONAL.

The following is an account of the position as regards Sanatorium Beds.

A scheme for 62 patients was approved by the Ministry of Health in March, 1921, and the tender of Mr. Farr of St. Helens for £11,413 was accepted, subject to approval by the Ministry of Health. Loan charges £1076 19s. 3d. The estimated cost of furniture required was £4,500, making a total of £15,913, towards which the Ministry promise a contribution of £180 a bed, or three-fifths of total cost whichever is least.

The Ministry of Health approved acceptance of Mr. Farr's tender for £9,457 for conversion of the Mansion and stables subject to details as to sewage arrangements.

The powers invested in the Sanatorium Benefits Subcommittee of the Herefordshire Insurance Committee, regarding Tuberculosis, were transferred to the County Council on 1st May, 1921. A Sanatorium Benefits Subcommittee meets once a month and considers treatment of patients at Sanatoria, after-care treatment generally, and also deals with grants of extra nourishment to necessitous tubercular patients.

On January, 1st, 1922, the following beds were at the service of the County:—

Knightwick Sanatorium	22 (14 males, 8 females).
Cranham Lodge	15 (10 males, 5 females).

In July, 1919, approval was obtained for 20 beds for tuberculous children at Approved Institutions. It has never been possible to obtain that number of vacancies. Beds were occupied during 1921 at the Oakbank and Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital.

Cases sent to Sanatoria.

One hundred and thirty cases have been sent to Sanatoria during the year:—

	Males.	Females.
No. sent to Sanatoria (Insured)	27	28
„ (Uninsured and Dependants)	4	21
„ „ (Discharged Soldiers)	50	—
	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 49

TOTAL 130

Those not sent to an Institution received domiciliary treatment.

Of the above dependent cases, 4 children were sent to Oakbank Institution, 5 to Knightwick Sanatorium, and one to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital.

Shelters.

Fifty-six Shelters have been in almost constant use during the whole year, and the benefits accruing to patients who have previously received treatment in Sanatoria are, generally, very marked.

Extra Nourishment.

During 1921 grants for extra nourishment were made to 19 Insured patients at a cost of £94 13s. 7d.

Nursing Arrangements.

These are the same as described in previous Reports, and form part of the approved Nursing Scheme for the County. In addition to attendance at the Dispensaries, domiciliary visitation is made to notified rural cases as soon after notification as possible. Special visits and much attention have been devoted to Tuberculous soldiers.

The details of visits to tuberculous cases are given on page 19.

OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

These diseases include Pneumonia, Bronchitis and other diseases of the Respiratory organs (but do not include Tubercular disease of the lungs).

From these causes there were 139 deaths—56 in Urban districts, and 83 in Rural, compared with 213 for 1920.

	<i>Bron-</i> <i>chitis.</i>	<i>Pneu-</i> <i>monia.</i>	<i>Other</i> <i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Rates</i> <i>per 1000.</i>
Urban Districts	25	26	5	1.41
Rural Districts	47	25	11.	1.15
Admin. County	72	51	16	1.24

DISPENSARIES, 1921.

Dispensary.	No. of Patients' Attendances.	No. of Cases Attended.	NEW CASES.						
			Insured.		Discharged Soldiers	Dependants.			
			Men.	Women		Over 16.		Under 16.	
						M.	F.		M.	F.
Hereford	1742	335	19	27	41	1	21	19	24
Leominster	361	102	5	1	2	2	8	7	6
Ross	354	103	4	5	7	—	3	2	3
Ledbury	177	78	3	4	7	0	3	4	4
Bromyard	243	59	4	5	3	1	3	6	1
Kington	168	43	0	4	3	0	1	2	2
	3045	720	35	46	63	4	39	40	40.

DISPENSARIES.

Situation of Dispensary (stating whether main or branch Dispensary, or Visiting Station).	Day and hours when Dispensary or Visiting Station is open.	Numbers of persons, including contacts, who were examined, for the first time, during the period from 1st Jan. 1921, to the 31st December, 1921, at or in connection with the dispensary or visiting station and were :—						Number of persons diagnosed to be suffering from tuberculosis who were treated or observed at or in connection with the dispensary or visiting station during the period from 1st Jan., 1921, to 31st Dec., 1921.			Number of persons who were under treatment, supervision, or observation at or in connection with the dispensary or visiting station on 31st Dec., 1921.		
		Diagnosed as suffering from Tuberculosis.	Diagnosed as not suffering from Tuberculosis.	Undiagnosed and remaining under observation.	Total number examined			Insured.	Uninsured.	Discharged Soldiers.	Insured.	Uninsured.	Discharged Soldiers.
					Insured.	Uninsured.	Discharged Soldiers.						
Hereford (Main)	Wed. Saturday. 9.30-12.30	58	76	18	46	65	41	46	64	79	32	86	56
Leominster (Branch)	Friday 10.30	12	13	6	6	23	2		6	26	13	29	26
Ross	Thursday 10.30	15	8	1	9	3	7		14	16	9	52	9
Ledbury	Tuesday. 10.30	14	7	4	7	11	7		11	15	8	28	15
Bromyard	Thursday 10.30	14	9	0	9	11	3		15	14	19	17	10
Kington	Tuesday 10.30	7	2	2	3	6	2		6	10	8	16	10
	TOTALS	120	115	31	80	124	162	98	137	160	89	228	126

Notifications from 2nd Jan., 1921, to 31st December 31st, 1921.

AGE PERIOD.	NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM ' A '											NOTIFICATION ON FORM " B. "				NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM " C. "		
	Number of Primary Notifications.											No. of Primary Notifications,				Total Notifications on Form " B. "	Poor Law Institutions.	Sana- toria.
	Total Notifications on Form " A. "											Total Notifications on Form " B. "				Total Notifications on Form " C. "	Total Notifications on Form " B. "	Total Notifications on Form " C. "
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards.	Total Notifications on Form " A. "	Under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	Total Notifications on Form " B. "	Total Notifications on Form " C. "	
Pulmonary Males	0	1	—	1	3	7	23	18	11	6	—	70	—	—	—	—	78	
Pulmonary Females	1	—	2	4	14	11	24	9	6	3	—	74	—	—	—	—	43	
Non-Pulmonary Males	—	1	3	2	1	3	3	2	—	2	1	18	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-pulmonary Females	1	1	1	4	4	3	2	1	3	1	—	21	—	2	—	2	—	

These figures refer to the cases which have been reported to me weekly by the District Medical Officers of Health—not to the returns in their Annual Reports.

CANCER.

During the past year 154 deaths in the County were due to Cancer, 52 occurring in the Urban districts and 102 in the Rural districts. The rates are as follows :—

	<i>Rate per 1,000. 1921</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 1920</i>
Urban Districts	1.31	1.18
Rural Districts	1.42	1.24
Administrative County	1.38	1.22

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**SMALL-POX.**

No case of Small-pox was notified during the year.

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 39 cases were returned as notified in the Urban and 134 in the Rural districts—173 in all, against 193 in 1920.

There was one death in the Rural districts, giving a death rate of 0.006 per 1,000.

The death-rate for the County as a whole works out at 0.006.

	<i>Attack rates per 1,000 population.</i>	<i>Number treated in Hospital.</i>
Urban Districts .....	.98	35
Rural Districts	1.86	43
Administrative County	1.54	78
England and Wales (Ad- ministrative Counties) (1920)	2.62	—

There was a considerable decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever compared to 1920, in the Urban and an increase in the Rural Districts.

DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during 1921 was 157—90 from the Urban districts and 67 from the Rural districts, against 136—54 Urban and 82 Rural in 1920.

Thirteen deaths occurred in the Urban and Rural districts, giving a death-rate of .116 per 1,000 for the County as whole.

	Attack Rate per 1,000 population.	Number treated in Hospital.
Urban Districts	2.23	57
Rural Districts	0.93	15
Administrative County	1.4	72
England and Wales (Ad- ministrative Counties) 1920	1.65	—

TYPHOID AND ALLIED FEVERS.

Under this head there are eleven cases to record—two in the Urban and nine in the Rural districts. There were no deaths.

	<i>Attack rates per 1,000 population</i>
Urban Districts	0.05
Rural Districts	0.12
Administrative County	0.09
England and Wales (Ad- ministrative Counties) (1920)	0.09

PUERPERAL FEVER.

There were four cases of Puerperal Fever notified during the year, none from the Urban Districts, and four from the Rural districts. There were two deaths.

	<i>Attack rates per 1,000 population</i>
Urban Districts	0.02
Rural Districts	0.05
Administrative County	0.04
England and Wales (Admini- strative Counties)	—

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

During the year eight cases were notified—all from the Rural districts.

POLIOMYELITIS.

There were seven cases of this disease, two notified from the Urban districts, and five from the Rural districts.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Two cases of this disease were notified from the Urban districts, and five from the Rural districts.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Three deaths occurred from this disease, one from the Urban and two from the Rural districts. One was under one year, one one year, and one five years of age.

MEASLES.

No deaths occurred during the year. A system of notification by School Teachers to the School Medical Officer, and the District Medical Officers of Health has been in force for several years and through this channel cases were notified.

By an Order of the Ministry of Health, Measles shall no longer be notifiable after December 31st, 1919. Any Sanitary Authority may still have the disease made notifiable, under special circumstances, with the consent of the Ministry.

ERYSIPELAS.

Of this disease 19 cases were notified—6 from the Urban and 13 from the Rural districts.

DIARRHOEAL DISEASES.

Thirty deaths occurred, 21 of which were in persons under two years of age, one 5 years, one 25 years, one 45 years, and six over 65 years of age.

INFLUENZA.

There were 24 deaths, six in the Urban and 18 in the Rural districts. Three were under one year, one at two years, one five years, one at 15, one 25, three at 45, and twelve over 65 years of age.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

By the Approved Scheme, one Treatment Centre is provided at the Herefordshire General Hospital for the whole County, and is under the care of a physician and a surgeon who have specialised in these diseases. Arrangements are made with Birmingham University Pathological Department for the Wassermann tests, etc., and with the County Laboratory for part of the microscopical work.

In August, 1918, the whole of the Isolation Building of the General Hospital was taken over for the purposes of the Clinic, the original accommodation having been found inadequate. The arrangements are now most suitable and convenient. The publicity methods, by which the Clinic is made known, have received further attention.

The Clinic is held twice weekly, viz., Wednesdays at 12 noon, and on Saturday evenings at 5 p.m. It is also available daily for Gonorrhoea cases. There are also a few beds for both sexes attached to the Clinic. The Clinic has been further equipped, and some details in the administration improved.

The Clinic is available for the entire County, and is also open to patients from the County of Radnor.

Doses of Novarsenobillon and other Salvarsan substitutes approved by the Ministry of Health are supplied from the County Health office to approved practitioners.

A grant of £1 per 1,000 of the population has now been made towards Propaganda work to be carried on under the auspices of the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases—of which a local County Branch has been formed. An instructive programme was carried out in several centres, embracing lectures and the exhibition of films.

(The Table on the following page gives an account of the work carried out at the County Clinic during the year.)

Returns relating to all Persons who were treated at the Treatment Centre at Hereford during the Year, 1921

	SOFT		GONORRHOEA		OTHER	
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
1. No of persons under treatment on January 1st, 1921	54	36	—	—	—	—
2. No. of persons dealt with for the first time						
Syphilis only	21	19	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea only	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis, Soft Chancre and Gonorrhoea	2	—	28	2	—	21 19
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea	3	1	2	—	—	28 2
Conditions other than Venereal	—	—	3	1	—	2 —
	—	—	—	—	22 17	3 1
	—	—	—	—	—	22 17
TOTALS (2)	26	20	31	3	22 17	76 39
TOTALS (1) and (2)	80	56	35	3	22 17	134 75
3. No of persons who (a) ceased to attend without completing treatment (b) or after completion of a course of treatment, but before final tests as to cure	1	1	—	—	—	1 1
4. No. of persons transferred to other Centres after treatment for	1	1	1	—	—	2 1
5. No. of persons discharged from the Out-Patient Clinic after completion of treatment and observation for	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. No. of persons who on Jan. 1st, 1921, were under treatment or observation for	78	54	25	—	22 17	47 17
TOTALS	80	56	9	3	—	84 56
7. Total attendances of all persons at the Out-patients' Clinic who were suffering from	—	—	35	3	22 17	134 75
8. Aggregate number of "In-Patient days" of Clinic who were	245	111	109	5	27 16	389 132
9. No. of doses of Salvarsan Substitutes given :—	—	—	6	—	—	6
(a) Out-Patient Clinic	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) In-Patient Department	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Examinations of Pathological Material	—	—	—	—	—	—
(A) At Treatment Centre—Spirochetes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gonococci	—	—	—	—	—	—
(B) At Approved Laboratory—Wassermann Reaction	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Owing to the increase in the accommodation at the Hereford Rural District Isolation Hospital there is now accommodation for 19 cases, and this addition enables two diseases to be treated concurrently.

It may, however, be again stated broadly that the accommodation in the County is anything but satisfactory, although this is still not an opportune time for dealing with the question. The Isolation Hospital accommodation for the County can only be satisfactorily improved by providing for the needs of the County as a whole.

HOUSING.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, etc.

In view of the curtailment of Schemes by the Ministry of Health, most Councils will, no doubt, be content to carry out a modified programme in the meantime. The details of the work of each Sanitary District, kindly supplied by the District Medical Officers of Health, shew the scope of the work done during the year.

	TOTAL NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING YEAR.	HOUSES ERECTED AS PART OF COUNCIL'S SCHEME.
<i>Urban Districts.</i>		
BROMYARD.....	0	0
HEREFORD CITY	139	138
KINGTON	—	—
LEDBURY	26	26
LEOMINSTER	0	0
ROSS	36 (under erection)	36 (under erection)

<i>Rural Districts.</i>		
BREDWARDINE	0	0
BROMYARD.....	6	4
DORE	0	0
HEREFORD	50	42
LEOMINSTER	20	20
WEOBLEY	0	0
LEDBURY	16	0
KINGTON	—	—
ROSS	5	5
WHITCHURCH	0	0
WIGMORE	0	0

WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supplies in the Rural Districts are mainly from shallow wells, and these yield a water of a rather low standard.

Ample facilities exist for the examination of samples at the County Laboratory, and during the year 125 samples have been examined, 85 of which were passed as fit for drinking purposes, and 40 condemned. There are a few good piped supplies in certain districts, and such should be developed as far as possible. Proposals to this end are before several of the Local Sanitary Authorities.

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

No new work of any importance has been carried out during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

I have no part in the administration of this Act. This is undertaken by the Standing Joint Committee of the County, so far as the County area is concerned. The City of Hereford is a separate local executive Authority, and its Health Committee controls the duties performed under the Acts.

In accordance with the Local Government Board Order, 6th August, 1912, the County Public Health Committee recommended in 1913 that the County Medical Officer of Health should supervise generally the administration of the Foods and Drug Acts, and that some co-operation should be brought about between the two Committees.

A more recent resolution of the Public Health Committee provides that the County Medical Officer shall draw the attention of the Standing Joint Committee to any question under the above Acts or under "Orders" of the Ministry of Health relating to Food which he considers vitally affects the Public health of the County.

NAME OF ARTICLE.	Number of Samples taken		Genuine		Adulterated.	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
1. Milk	17	5	14	4	3	1
2. Butter	7	3	6	3	1	—
3. Arrowroot	2	—	2	—	—	—
4. Vinegar	1	—	1	—	—	—
5. Baking Powder	1	—	1	—	—	—
6. White Pepper.....	2	—	2	—	—	—
7. Ground Ginger	1	—	1	—	—	—
8. Lard	3	1	3	1	—	—
9. Margarine	3	—	3	—	—	—
10. Cheese	1	—	1	—	—	—
11. Brown Sugar	—	1	—	1	—	—
	38	10	34	9	4	1
	48		43		5	

MILK.—One fined £10 ; one cautioned ; 27 per cent. and 6 per cent. added water.

BUTTER.—One fined 10s. ; 1.7 per cent. excess water. One sample contained .25 per cent. boracic acid.

MARGARINE.—Samples contained .27 per cent. ; .22 per cent. ; and .21 per cent. boracic acid, and one 15 per cent. excess water.

CITY OF HEREFORD.

ARTICLES.	Number Purchased		Number Genuine		Number Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Milk	12	37	10	29	2	8
Condensed Milk	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cream	—	1	—	1	—	—
Preserved Cream	—	2	—	2	—	—
Butter	—	5	—	5	—	—
Lard	—	3	—	3	—	—
Cheese	—	3	—	3	—	—
Coffee	—	2	—	2	—	—
Pepper	—	3	—	3	—	—
Mustard	—	1	—	1	—	—
Rice	—	3	—	3	—	—
Scotch Whisky	—	1	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	12	62	10	54	2	8
	74		64		10	

REMARKS.

MILK.—Of the 12 "formal" samples, 10 were genuine ; one contained 2.35 per cent. of fat, being deficient of 5 per cent. ; and one contained 9 per cent. of added water. Of the 37 "informal" samples, 29 were certified as genuine. In regard to the eight samples which were deficient in fat, five were taken in the course of delivery from one farm. These were deficient in fat to the extent of 3.3, 5, 6.6, 10, and 26 per cent. respectively. Further samples were eventually taken, which proved genuine. The other three samples were taken from individual cows, two were deficient of 10 per cent., and one 26 per cent. of fat.

BUTTER.—Three samples were genuine and of good quality. One contained a trace of boron preservative and 13.1 per cent. of moisture, and one was free from boron preservative and contained 11 per cent. of moisture.

SCOTCH WHISKY.—This sample was 28 degrees under proof.

OTHER ARTICLES.—All these were certified to be genuine and of good quality.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births (excluding Hereford City) :—

Registered—(1) Legitimate, 1759 ; (2) Illegitimate, 124 ; total, 1883.

Notified—(1) Live Births, 1634 ; (2) Still Births, 11 ; total, 1645.

(1) By Midwives, 1185 ; (12) Parents, Doctors, and Registrars, 460.

Infant Deaths—

(1) Legitimate, 102 ; (2) Illegitimate, 9 ; (3) Total, 111.
Rate per 1,000 births : (1) Legitimate, 58.0 ; (2) Illegitimate, 72.6 ; (3) total, 58.9

Health Visiting.

The present Scheme, as approved by the Local Government Board, was initiated in November, 1917.

The above figures relate only to the County area outside the City. The percentage notified was lower than in 1920.

During 1920 the work became firmly established, and the staff of the Health Visitors more stable.

The present whole-time staff consists of six Health Visitors, the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent working in six Health areas. Within these areas the part-time service of 21 local District Nurses is also available, mostly for school and notification of birth duties.

The six County areas are therefore fully established.

Notwithstanding that the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and one Health Visitor are stationed in the Hereford area, it is felt that this is the district most difficult to cover, including as it does, the Hereford and Weobley Rural Districts, and also the large and thinly populated Dore Rural District.

In the several areas the Health Visitors, assisted by the 21 local District Nurses, visited the notified births, attended the local Infant Centres, visited all notified cases of Tuberculosis including discharged soldiers, and attended the local Tuberculosis Dispensaries. Cases of Measles and Whooping Cough were visited where these diseases were prevalent.

The Schools were also visited, with a view to cleanliness, The "following up" of such cases, and also of cases of physical defects, was extensively carried out in the homes.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year 1921 :—

	INFANT WELFARE.	<i>Visits.</i>
1. Attendances at Welfare Centres		158
2. Domiciliary Visits in connection with Centres.....		122
3. Re-visits " " "		133
4. Visits to homes (Notification of Birth)		1602
5. Re-visits " " "		6947
6. Visits to Ante-Natal Cases		624
7. Re-visits " " "		779
8. Visits to Children, 1-5 years		51
9. Re-visits		144

TUBERCULOSIS.

1. Attendances at Dispensary	227
2. Domiciliary Visits to Notified Cases	121
3. Re-visits " " "	138
4. Visits to Discharged Soldiers	6
5. Re-visits " " "	95
6. Visits to Shelters	305

SCHOOL WORK.

1. Attendances at School Inspections	184
2. Visits to Schools <i>re</i> Cleanliness	659
3. Following-up Visits to Homes <i>re</i> Cleanliness	1178
4. Do. Do. <i>re</i> Physical Defects	651

OTHER WORK.

1. Ophthalmia—Visits and Re-visits	151
2. Puerperal Fever „ „	45
3. Measles „ „	48
4. Mental Deficiency „ „	192

TOTAL VISITS15603

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDER, 1918.—The Order has been in force during the year, and is operative within the County area as a whole. No scale of wages

has been adopted by the Council, the basis of distribution being largely destitution. Every case is carefully scrutinised by the Health Visitors, and all information as to wages, number in family, etc., is transmitted to the County Medical Officer of Health on special forms. Most of the applications came through the Infant Welfare Centres, medical practitioners, local nurses, and Health Visitors. During the period in question these cases were dealt with at a cost of £26 5s. 3d.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Voluntary Infant Welfare Centres are established in Leominster, Ross, Ledbury, Kington and Weobley. In the case of the last mentioned, the meetings are held alternately in Weobley, Dilwyn, and King's Pyon, and this has resulted in good attendances, and has taken in a larger area, and has avoided the long distances for the parents. An attempt was made to start a Welfare in Bromyard, but had to be abandoned for the present.

The County Council gives to each Voluntary Centre a grant of £5 yearly, and allows the County Medical Officer to give advice at the Centres so far as he has time to do so.

These Welfares are run by an enthusiastic band of voluntary workers who have local knowledge of the cases requiring advice. This voluntary effort is carried on in cordial co-operation with the official work of the Health Visitors and District Nurses, and the practical results are evident in the lowered County death-rate among infants.

Much encouragement has been forthcoming from general practitioners in the areas concerned.

The Ross Voluntary Centre is accommodated in new premises in the centre of the town, and embraces Maternity Beds for necessitous cases, which are received from any part of the County. This Centre receives a special grant from the Ministry of Health.

At several of the Centres useful exhibitions were held during the year.

The following is an account of the work at the five Centres during the year :—

1. No. of Infants attended	388
2. No. of Attendances, Children	1874
Expectant Mothers	152
3. No. of Children aged 2-5	132
4. Average daily attendance	11
5. No. of Children who were breast fed entirely.....	420
6. Artificial foods used :- Cows' Milk, Barley Water, Cow and Gate, Glaxo, Nestle's, Neave's, Allenbury's, Savory and Moore's, Horlicks's	
7. Amount received for artificial foods, Virol *Clothing, etc., supplied	£116 11 11½
(*This included such things as Belts, Socks, Vests.)	
8. No. in attendance at end of year	295
9. Ante-Natal Cases	39

MATERNITY HOMES.

(1) St. Francesca's Home, Hereford, for unmarried mothers, started in July, 1918, under the auspices of the Diocesan Association for Rescue and Preventive work, owing to financial difficulties, was closed on 31st May, 1921.

(2) Ross Maternity Home is part of the Voluntary Infant Welfare Centre. Local practitioners can attend their own patients, who are admitted on a fixed scale of charges. The local Nurse resides in the Home, and acts as Midwife Superintendent.

NURSE MIDWIVES.

During 1919 a Scheme has been approved by the Ministry, with a view to covering the unsupplied parishes of the County with trained Nurse Midwives, whereby (1) a larger number of suitable women may be trained, and (2) new and existing District Nursing Associations are to be subsidised.

COUNTY LABORATORY.

Complete outfits are supplied by the County Medical Officer, under whose personal supervision the work of the Laboratory is conducted. Positive results are transmitted by telephone or telegram in order to avoid delay. No charge is made for the examination of "ordinary" specimens arising out of the routine work of any Sanitary Authority in the County.

Specimens, however, sent by the general public are subject to a modified fee.

The following work was carried out during the year 1921:—

	No.	SPECIMENS.	
		Contaminated.	Passed.
Chemical.			
Examinations of potable waters	124	40	84
Bacteriological.			
Examinations of potable waters	1	0	1
	125	40	85
Microscopical.			
		<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>
Examinations for Bacillus Diphtheriae.....	1103	376	727
Examinations for Bacillus Tuberculosis (sputum).....	174	34	140
Examinations for Bacillus Tuberculosis (pus)	2	0	2
Examinations for Bacillus Tuberculosis (urine).....	6	0	6
Examinations for Bacillus Tuberculosis (Pleural Effusion)	1	0	1
Examination for Tuberculosis (Cerebro-Spinal Fluid)	1	0	1
Examination for Tuberculosis (Meat)	9	0	9
Examinations for Meningococcus (Spinal Fluid).....	2	0	2
Examinations for Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	0	2
Examinations for Gonococcus	6	0	6
" " Vincents Angina	5	2	3
" " Albumen and pus (urine)	5	3	2
" " Casts (urine)	2	0	2
" " Sugar (Urine)	1	0	1
" " B. Coli	4	1	3
Examination of Pus for Staphylococci	1	1	0
" " Pneumococcus	1	0	1
Examination for Bacillus of Typhoid (Blood)	4	2	2
" " Para A.	3	1	2
" " Para. B.	3	0	3
" " Malarial Parasites	1	0	1
" " Anaemia	1	0	1
" " Ringworm (Hair)	1	0	1
" " B. Typhoid (Milk)	1	0	1
" " Para. A. in Milk	1	0	1
" " Tuberculosis in Milk	3	0	3
TOTAL	1343	420	923
GRAND TOTAL	1468	460	1008

THE MIDWIVES' ACT.

SUMMARY OF THE INSPECTOR'S WORK.

Regular Inspections of Midwives	238
Special Visits of Enquiry	85
Visits to non-registered Women reported to be practising	3
Letters and Notices sent out :—	1302

Notifications received—

Of Intention to Practise	125
Of sending for Medical Help	420
Of Still-births	40
Last Offices	10
Liability to be a Source of Infection	11
Artificial Feeding of Infants	17
Death of Infant before arrival of Doctor	2
Death of Mother " "	1
	626

Temporary withdrawals on account of being exposed to infection.....	11
---	----

	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Recovered.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Septic Cases	0	0	0
Cases of Eclampsia	0	3	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	0	1

Midwives practising—

Number of Trained Midwives working under Local Nursing Associations affiliated to the County Nursing Association	38
Trained Midwives working under Local Associations <i>not</i> affiliated to the County Nursing Association	4
Trained Midwives practising on their own account	19
Bona-fide Midwives	33
TOTAL	94

There are several Midwives resident in adjacent Counties and not included in the above List, who occasionally take cases in Herefordshire, and regularly notify to this Authority their intention to practise.

Trained Midwives from other Counties, who take holiday and emergency work in the County, receive routine inspection

One County Nurse finished training during 1921. She is at work in an affiliated district.

Two candidates were in training at the end of the year.

(Signed), A. BODEN,
Inspector of Midwives.

Practice of Midwives.

During the year the following live births were attended by practising midwives :—

	Cases.	% of total births.
As Midwives	1715	70.4
As Maternity Nurses under Medical Practitioners	485	20.0
TOTAL	2200	90.4

In 420 instances medical help was called for, the particulars of which are as follows :—

Long Labour	141
Rupture of Perineum	78
Mastitis	4
Albuminuria	3
Abnormal presentations	19
High Temperature	13
Hoemorrhage Ante and Post partum	23
Threatened Abortions	4
Abortions	22
Retained and adherent Placenta and Membranes	17
Dangerous Varicose Veins and Phlebitis	6
Other Illnesses during Pregnancy and labour	29
Feebleness and Prematurity of child	34
Deformities and abnormalities	8
Inflammation and discharge from Eyes	19
	<hr/> 420

Still Births.

The 40 still births (40 infants) were notified by 24 midwives. Two of the cases were twins, two abortions, two at 8 months, nine of 7 months, 13 full time, and four not stated. Of the 40 still born, 22 were male and 17 females.—in one case, sex not stated.

As to condition of child, 16 were macerated, 2 malformed, 20 normal, and in 2, no information is given,

Abortions.

The 22 abortions recorded were notified by 14 midwives. The periods of gestation were one at 6 months, one $5\frac{1}{2}$ months, one 5 months, two at $4\frac{1}{2}$ months, three at 3 months, two at two months. In thirteen cases no period was given.

Inflammation of and Discharge from Eyes.

Nineteen cases were notified by 12 midwives as having been the cause of calling in medical help. All recovered without any permanent injury to the eyes.

Puerperal Fever and Rise of Temperature.

Medical help was called in 13 cases by 11 midwives, none of which were regarded as septic cases, and all the patients recovered.

Disciplinary Action.

None was called for during the year.

Supply and Training of Midwives.

The work under the Midwives Act, Infant Welfare and Nursing is controlled by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

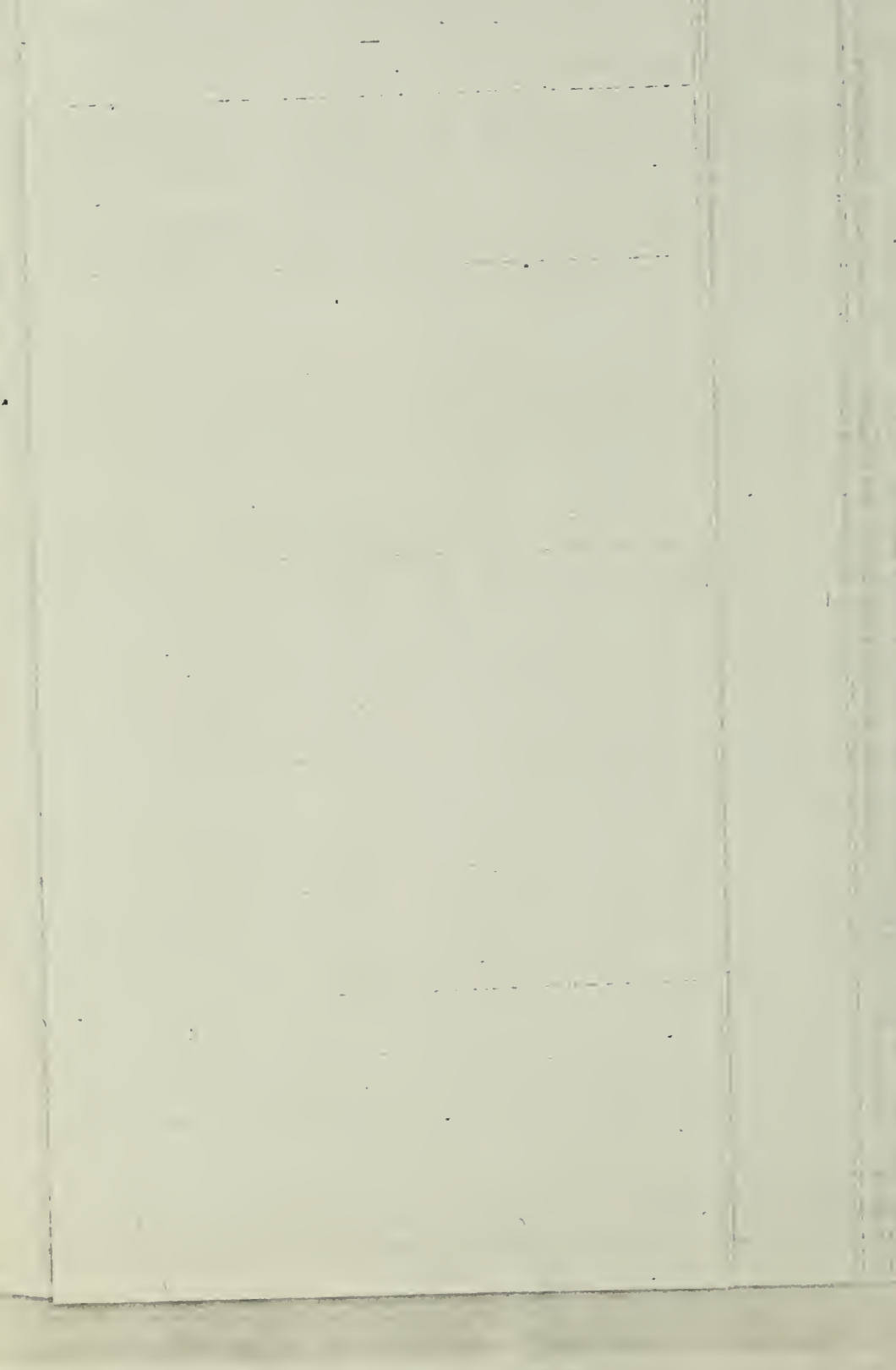
The number of practising Midwives has decreased by four since last year. The number of bona-fide Midwives has decreased by two. The deficit has been made good by trained Midwives. The question of maintaining and increasing the number of Midwives has been frequently under discussion in relation to the general problem of Maternity and Infant Welfare.

In July, 1919, the County Council passed the following Scheme for extending the Nursing and Midwifery Services in the County, and it was subsequently approved by the Ministry of Health. Epitomised it is as follows:—

- (1) Grant of £50 to County Nursing Association for each Nurse trained, ten at least to be trained per annum in addition to those being trained at present.

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NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN EACH DISTRICT

NAMES OF DISTRICTS.	CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							
	Small-pox.	Cholera.	Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Pneumonia.	Enteric Fever.	Dysentery.
URBAN.								
Bromyard	2	2	1	.....	.....
† Hereford City	70	4	32	5	.....	.....
Kington	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ledbury	2	.....	1	.....	1	.....
*† Leominster	2	.....	.....	.....
§ Ross	2	.....	2	.....	1	.....
Total	90	6	39	6	2	.....
RURAL.								
(a) Bredwardine	6	1	.....	1
Bromyard	10	1	16	13	1	.....
Dore	20	1	4	.....	.....	.....
†‡ Hereford	16	3	45	1	6	8
Kington	6	2	11	1	.....	.....
Ledbury	5	.....	18	.....	.....	1
* Leominster	3	1	22	.....	.....	1
§ Ross	2	2	.....	2	1	.....
Weobley	1	1	8	.....	.....	1
* Whitechurch	1	.....	2	.....	1	.....
* Wigmore	3	2	5	.....	.....	.....
TOTAL	67	13	137	18	9	8

* No Isolation Hospital Accommodation available.

† Isolation Hospital Accommodation available for Small-pox.

‡ The Hereford Rural Isolation Hospital is available, by arrangement, for patients from

§ Accommodated in the Isolation Cottage in the Ross Rural District.

(a) Admitted to Hay Urban District Council Isolation Hospital, by arrangement.

DISTRICT AND THE NUMBER REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.

LOCALITY.							NUMBER OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.						
Primary Tuberculosis.) Other Forms of Tuberculosis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Malaria.	Acute Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Totals.		Small-pox.	Diphtheria, in- cluding Mem- branous Group	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Poliomyelitis.	Totals.
4					9								
36	16		2	1	166		55	33					88
4					20		2						2
2					6								
7				1	10								
2					7				2				2
55	16		2	2	218		57	35					92
					8			1					1
13	2				56								
6		2		1	34		1						1
24	10	1	3	2	119		12	34					46
5	2			1	28		1	1					2
6	2		2		34		1	4					5
6	2	1			36								
8		3			18								
10	1	1	1	2	26			4					4
	1				5								
6	4				20								
84	24	8	5	4	384		15	44					59

from the Dore, Ledbury and Weobley Rural Districts.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS					
		All Ages	0—	1—	2—	3—	15—
ALL CAUSES	M.	251	40	2	2	3	9
	F.	270	30	3	4	10	12
1 Enteric Fever	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Small Pox	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3 Measles	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Scarlet Fever	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Whooping Cough	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Diphtheria	M.	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
	F.	6	1	.....	1	4	.....
7. Influenza	M.	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	3	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory	M.	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
	F.	19	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	M.	6	1	1	.....	1	1
	F.	5	1	.....	.....	1	1
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease	M.	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Rheumatic Fever	M.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14. Diabetes	M.	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15. Cerebral Hemorrhage	M.	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
16. Heart Disease	M.	39	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
	F.	44	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
17. Arterio-Sclerosis	M.	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
18. Bronchitis	M.	18	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	7	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	M.	12	5	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	14	3	3	.....	1	1
20. Other Respiratory Diseases	M.	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
21. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	M.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
22. Diarrhoea, etc.	M.	7	7	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	5	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis	M.	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
24. Cirrhosis of Liver	M.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	M.	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	6	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
27. Puerperal Sepsis	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
26. Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	M.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
28. Congenital Debility and Malformation	M.	17	16	.....	.....	.....	.....
Premature Birth	F.	13	13	.....	.....	.....	.....
29. Suicide	M.	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
30. Other Deaths from Violence	M.	10	1	.....	.....	1	.....
	F.	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
31. Other Defined diseases	M.	45	7	1	1	1	2
	F.	61	5	.....	2	2	8
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	M.	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

FILE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF HEREFORD 1921.

[illegible]

